16. (New) A method for ensuring the operation of signaling channels in a V5 interface between a local exchange and an access node, the interface comprising:

reconfiguring V5 interface data in an interface composition having at least two signaling channels; and

ensuring active operation of protected signaling channels when starting a V5 interface, wherein the protected signaling channels are started on signaling channels defined in a new interface composition, and on signaling channels to which the protected signaling channels were transferred in a protection switch-over.

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17. (New) The method as defined in claim 16, wherein the reconfiguring V5 interface data in the interface composition is carried out independently both in a local exchange and in an access node without changing a value of an interface composition parameter.

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18. (New) The method as defined in claim 16, wherein the protected signaling channels transferred to a backup channel in a protection switch-over, remain at locations to which they were transferred in the protection switch-over, regardless of the reconfigured composition of the V5 interface.

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19. (New) The method as defined in claim 16, wherein composition changes in the reconfiguration of the composition of the V5 interface are made in an original composition regardless of protection switch-over operations carried out in the V5 interface.

10. (New) The method as defined in claim 1, wherein an interface composition parameter is a provision variant parameter of the V5 interface, wherein the provision variant parameter includes the reconfigured V5 interface data.